

COUNTRY Morocco

DATE: 25X1X6

SUBJECT Dissension in the International Police Force

INFO.

DIST. 11 December 1946

PAGES 2

ORIGIN Tangier

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SUPPLEMENT



SOURCE

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1. Recently (see report [redacted] the Belgian members of the International Police Force in Tangier drew up a plan for the reorganization of the police force designed to eliminate French control in the force. The plan was submitted to Admiral Luiz de Magalhaes Correa, Administrator of the Zone, at the suggestion of Major Louis Artous, French Assistant Chief of police.
2. Source reports that if the Administrator decides against the reorganization plan, an attempt will be made by Carlos de Radigues de Chenneviere, Belgian Consul General in Tangier, to bring the matter before the Committee of Control.
3. In a letter written recently to Edmond de Beauverger, French Consul General in Tangier, the Belgian Consul General stated that:
 - a. The International Police Force in Tangier was being run in a manner which was in direct contravention to the decisions made at the Paris Conference in August 1945.
 - b. French Major Louis Artous, Assistant Chief of Police, was using the police force to attain the political ends desired by France.
 - c. If the French did not adhere to the policies laid down by the Paris Conference, the Belgian Consul General would take the matter to a "higher authority".
4. All the Belgian police officers (with the exception of Major Giron* and Colonel Victor Legrand, Chief of Police) signed a

* Major J.P. Giron, in command of the Tangier suburban police, is the nephew of Paul-Henri Spaak. Reportedly he hopes to be appointed Chief of Police when and if Colonel Legrand leaves Tangier.

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- 2 -

secret communication addressed to Colonel Victor Legrand in which these officers stated:

- a. That it was impossible to do any "honest" police work in Tangier because the French "obstruct the Belgians at every turn, use rank favoritism with respect to the employment and protection of incompetent and sometimes dishonest nationals".
- b. That the provisions of the Paris Conference must be implemented to allow the Belgians to direct the police force.
- c. That if the French succeed in having any of the Belgians dismissed without a public hearing, all the Belgian officers will return en bloc to Brussels to state their case.
- d. That the French are using police paid by the International Administration to do intelligence work for the French Consulate.
- e. That French puppets had been appointed to the police force without any examination but with the apparent consent of Colonel Legrand.
- f. That although Artous was evidently willing to adopt portions of the reorganization plan, he (representing the French) was opposed to the principle points of the plan.

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